

BEFORE  
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
DOCKET NO. 2000-407-C - ORDER NO. 2001-413  
MAY 1, 2001

IN RE: Proceeding to Consider Implementation of a	)	ORDER DENYING
Cap on Surcharges and Rates Associated with	)	PETITION ✓ DJ
Operator Assisted Calls.	)	

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) on the Petition of Pay Tel Communications, Inc. (Pay Tel) for this Commission to address inmate and non-inmate calling rates in separate proceedings. According to the Petition, the issues in addressing the rates for collect-only inmate telephone calls are different than those related to non-inmate operator-assisted calls. Also, the parties who will participate in the inmate facet of the proceeding will be different and almost entirely separate from those who are interested in the pricing of non-inmate operator-assisted calls, in the words of the Petition. Accordingly, for these and other reasons, Pay Tel states its belief that the hearings on inmate and non-inmate calling rates should be held separately.

We disagree and deny the Petition. We hold that inmate and non-inmate operator-assisted surcharges and per minute rates should be reviewed in the same forum to insure that this Commission's actions are consistent. Consistency is easier to maintain when matters are considered in the same hearing

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This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

  
Chairman

ATTEST:

  
Executive Director

(SEAL)